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Title: Need to sanction special financial assistance for relief and rehabilitation of flood affected people and for the construction and repair of roads in Nagpur city.

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR (NAGPUR): I wish to raise a very important matter regarding the flood situation in the Vidarbha region of Maharashtra. A very serious and unprecedented situation has been created by the excessive rainfall in the Vidarbha region which has adversely affected many parts of this region.

The Chandrapur and Yavatmal were the worst affected districts. Chandrapur was in deep water for over two days and the entire communication system has collapsed. As a result thereof, water has entered the houses, roads damaged, sewerage system completely failed, large number of houses damaged, many animals perished. The situation aggravated further all around as a result of water logging on roads and other public places. Irrigation projects are badly damaged. The agricultural fields are heavily in deep water as a result thereof not only the standing crops have been completely damaged but the possibility of raising fresh crops too is very remote. More than 4 lakh hectare of agricultural land has been adversely affected.

The incessant rains with rising levels in Naag Nadi, Peeli Nadi & Chambhar Nala have almost created a flood like situation in many areas in the city of Nagpur, in the absence of a protection wall. The situation in Nagpur city is no better than the other parts of the region. Nagpur experienced excessive rainfall to the extent of 1008 mm which is 222.17% higher than the average rainfall. There has been extensive damage to 771 number of roads (1195.72 Kms) and 14 bridges. As a result thereof entire road transport network has been completely disrupted. The unhygienic conditions has been created as a result of the garbage scattered all around which is not only a great health hazard but also a safe place for mosquito breeding. The situation would not have been so if the Municipal authorities had taken timely remedial steps to avoid this extraordinary situation.

Nearly eight lakh people living in the jhuggi-jhopris in Nagpur are worst affected due to flood badly damaging their livelihood and even destroying their poor belongings. They are in a very pitiable condition as the areas they live in are in deep water. The situation is very acute. The current monsoon season has created much worse situation for the people than the one faced during the last four years.

In order to overcome the situation arising out of the extensive damage caused as a result of the heavy rains in the Vidarbha region, I would urge upon the Government to sanction a special financial assistance to the tune of atleast Rs.1,000 crore alone for the construction and repair of roads in Nagpur city and for relief and rehabilitation of large number of affected people, particularly living in the jhuggi-jhopris and for undertaking other development works.